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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fiftieth session
Items 20 (e) and 54 of the
preliminary list*
STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF
HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF
ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS,
INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE:
EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR
PEACE, NORMALCY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF
WAR-STRICKEN AFGHANISTAN
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS
IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE
AND SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 20 June 1995 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a statement dated 9 June 1995 by a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation regarding Afghanistan (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 20 (e) and 54 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) S. LAVROV

* A/50/50/Rev.1.

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Annex

Statement dated 9 June 1995 by a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

The fierce armed struggle between military and political groups is continuing in Afghanistan. New forces are entering the battle for power. The separatist mood is growing. The struggle is taking on the characteristics of an inter-ethnic conflict, with the attendant risk that the country will fragment.

The absence of civil peace and generally recognized authorities in Afghanistan is causing dangerous problems for neighbouring States, such as the importation of drugs and weapons and the appearance in their territory of mercenaries who were formerly Afghan fighters.

The turn of events in Afghanistan is causing deep concern on the Russian side.

The Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs reaffirms our country's unchanged position of principle, which stipulates our non-involvement in the struggle between the various Afghan parties, and urges other States to refrain from interfering in Afghanistan. The Russian side favours preserving the unity and integrity of Afghanistan against any attempts to fragment the State on ethnic, linguistic, religious or other grounds.

We are particularly concerned to guarantee the security of Afghanistan's frontiers with the Commonwealth of Independent States; we are also anxious that Afghan territory should not be used for activities which undermine the stability and security of neighbouring countries, as is currently happening in connection with Tajikistan.

The Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs appeals to all parties in the internal Afghan struggle to refrain from armed conflict and initiate serious efforts to achieve compromise in the interests of national reconciliation. The way out of the conflict lies in the formation of a broad-based leadership that takes account of the interests of all the ethnic and religious groups in the Afghan population, as well as the traditions of Afghan statehood. Needless to say, the achievement of national consensus depends on the willingness of the Afghan parties themselves to agree to such a step.

We believe that in the achievement of these ends, the active and impartial mediation of the United Nations and coordinated efforts on the part of Afghanistan's neighbours and other interested regional and non-regional States could play a useful role. For our part, we have provided and shall continue to provide all necessary assistance in this matter.